

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in this application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claims 1.-32. (Canceled)

33. (Currently Amended) ~~The A~~ body fluid collecting device ~~as defined in Claim 32~~ including a sensor to detect a prescribed component in the body fluid, wherein

said sensor includes at its distal end a measuring part capable of holding said body fluid,

said body fluid collecting device includes a first supporter to support the vicinity of said measuring part of said sensor and a second supporter to support said sensor at a place closer to the proximal end than said first supporter, with said first and second supporters forming between them a non-contact space in which the surface of said sensor does not substantially come into contact with the inside of said body fluid collecting device, and

said first supporter has at its proximal end a concave that communicates with said non-contact space.

34. (Previously Presented) The body fluid collecting device as defined in Claim 33, wherein said concave is a notch formed by cutting part of said first supporter.

35. (Currently Amended) The body fluid collecting device as defined in Claim ~~[[32]]~~ 33, wherein said sensor is bent or curved in said non-contact space.

36. (Currently Amended) The body fluid collecting device as defined in Claim ~~[[32]]~~ 33, wherein said first supporter is arranged closer to the central axis of said body fluid collecting device than said second supporter.

37. (Currently Amended) The body fluid collecting device as defined in Claim ~~[[32]]~~ 33, which further includes a body fluid duct which communicates with said first supporter and introduces said body fluid into said measuring part.

38. (Previously Presented) The body fluid collecting device as defined in Claim 37, wherein said body fluid duct has a volume which is 0.5 to 2 times the volume of said measuring part.

39. (Previously Presented) The body fluid collecting device as defined in Claim 37, wherein said body fluid duct is 0.1 to 10 mm in length and 0.1 to 3 mm in inside diameter.

40. (Previously Presented) The body fluid collecting device as defined in Claim 37, wherein said measuring part is inclined with respect to the lengthwise direction of said body fluid duct and is positioned in the vicinity of the outlet opening of said body fluid duct.

41. (Previously Presented) The body fluid collecting device as defined in Claim 37, which further includes a guide that projects from the distal end of said body fluid collecting device and introduces said body fluid into the inlet opening of said body fluid duct,

said guide being formed such that the distance from the distal end thereof to the inlet opening of said body fluid duct is 1 to 10 mm.

42. (Currently Amended) The body fluid collecting device as defined in Claim ~~[[32]]~~ 33, wherein said sensor electrically detects the prescribed component in the body fluid by contact with said body fluid.

Claims 43.-57. (Canceled)